

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Amendments and Support for Same

Prior to this response, claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-23 were pending. By this response, claims 1 and 12 have been amended, and claims 2 and 22 have been cancelled. Amended claim 1 recites all of the features in original claim 2, and amended claim 12 recites all of the features in original claim 22.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-23 is under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flaxer (USPN 2004/0162741, referred to as Flaxer), and further in view of Koehler (USPN 2003/0085079, referred to as Koehler). This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that Flaxer and/or Koehler fail to disclose or suggest a method and system for automatic service composition that uses a correlation establishing step for establishing at least one level of data-type-service graph between all service specifications and data types in which the new object predicting step follows the interactive usage correlation structure to select at least one service specification related to the data type, as is now positively recited in claims 1 and 12.

According to the Examiner, the step of establishing at least one level of data-type-service graph between all service specifications and data types, so that the new object predicting step follows the interactive usage

correlation structure to select a service specification related to a data type, is disclosed in paragraphs [0085] and [0037] of the Flaxer publication. However, paragraph [0085] merely states that "service classes" 250 are defined by attributes 262 and operations 264, the operations being defined by name, input and output data type. There is no suggestion of a data-type-service graph that correlates all service specifications and data types, and that can be used to select a service specification related to a data type.

To the contrary, new object prediction is carried out, as explained in paragraph [0088] by a state machine 310 that consists of a list of states 330 that are named and identified based on their type and the permissible transitions between the states, such that when a state transition occurs, an action 368 is executed, the actions being referred to primitive services. As explained in paragraph [0088]:

. . . The data flow in a state machine isn't explicitly defined. However, there is a data pool for each state machine to contain all the input and output data. Directive 320 contains data or control specifications that affect the behavior of state machine 310; Directive 366 contains data or control specifications that affect the behavior of transition 350.

In other words, Flaxer does not use a data-type-service graph, but rather provides dynamic association of service specifications and data types based on directives. As a result of the positively recited step of a correlation establishing step that provides a data-type-service graph between all service specifications and data types, which is not taught by Flaxer, the inventive method and system for automatic service composition is able to predict and declare the possible new objects so as to complete the service process smoothly even though the service requester

does not know if there will be any new objects generated during the execution of the service request. The method of Flaxer does not have this advantage.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 12 are allowable over the cited reference. The remaining dependent claims recite additional, important claim limitations and should be allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 12 as well as their own merits

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application are now believed to be in order, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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